

COUNTRY: Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT: Cukmantl Area, and Toriski
PLACE ACQUIRED: [REDACTED]
DATE ACQUIRED: [REDACTED] 25X1A
DATE OF INFO: Autumn 51

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1. Q. How clearly defined is the border between Czechoslovakia and Poland in the Cukmantl (Tsukmantl) area? What type of boundary marker is used? Where are the legal and illegal crossing points?
A. A small stream about 15 meters wide separates Czechoslovakia and Poland in the Cukmantl area. At various intervals small bridges cross the stream, but are fenced off to prevent traffic across the bridge. Legal crossings include a hard surface road 15 meters wide between Cukmantl and the Polish city of Glucholazy. Other roads from the same area into Poland lead from Skrivanko, Rozmital, and Ondrejovice. I believe that illegal crossings can be and are made in the dense forest area between Ondrejovice and Mikulovice, and in the forest area near Rozmital. I understand it is relatively easy to cross the borders in these areas in both directions, but preferably at night.
2. The roads mentioned above are generally open to traffic throughout the year. Paths and trails through the wooded areas can be travelled by foot during heavy snow periods; snow shoes and skis are preferable. Snow begins to arrive during the latter part of October, and leaves in April; December through February is the period of maximum fall.
3. In the Cukmantl area the border with Poland is visibly guarded, and in the neighboring Obec of Ondrejovice (Andrzejewicze) I saw the border close at hand. It was marked by a small stream crossed by bridges, and I remember seeing rolls of wire on them so put as to prevent rapid movement. I did not see the appearance of the border in the fields. The Border Guard consists of the Narodna Bezpecnost (National Security), and I also noticed guards patrolling about two km short of the border. I don't remember the features of border markers, but at Ondrejovice, in Poland, they apparently consisted of Polish flags about one km apart flown from the houses.
4. Q. What forms of vegetation exist in the Cukmantl and Toriski areas? What edible nuts, fruits, or roots? What is the density of the forest and what are their composition?
A. Edible fruits exist like wild strawberries and blueberries. Mushrooms are also to be found, although I don't know their exact names. The Slovaks in the east had their own names, but we called them Griby (common mushroom, Boletus edulis), Lisecky (fox mushroom, Contharellus ciborius), Masliagi (?), Ridzicky (Lactoria delicosa?), and others. The forests are comparatively dense, consisting mostly of spruce and Scotch pine.

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5. There are no dangerous animals in either the Cukmantl or Toriski areas. There is a variety of small animals in both areas; roe-deer, elk, jack rabbits, and wild boar may be found there. There are not many fish in the streams, although trout are native to the areas. There are several species of poisonous snakes, but I know only that one of them is the Adder.
6. As far as roads are concerned in Toriski, a highway was under construction in 1951 that branched off from the main Levoca-Kezmarok highway at Levocka Dolina and ran in the direction of Toriski. Otherwise, there were only country roads in Toriski. Some are used the year around, while others only seasonally. Much the same situation prevails in the Cukmantl area, where country trails and roads are comparatively numerous. In addition, highways run in all directions from Cukmantl; the one mentioned to the Polish city of Glucholazy, toward Jindrichov, toward Hermanovice, toward Dooni Grunt, toward Ondrejovice and Jesenik.
7. There is really little difference between the Cukmantl and Toriski areas in character. For example, in Toriski it sometimes happens that snow arrived in October, and at other times in January. In Cukmantl there is usually snow cover in December, but it may come even later. In both areas the lumbering industry is carried on throughout the year, with cutting primarily in the winter and spring, when logs are hauled from the hills into valleys by horses, and then usually transported to the mills by truck.

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